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The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1881)

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MONDAY, MARCH 31, 1919.

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

BRITAIN'S FISCAL POLICY.

IMPERIAL PREFERENCE ASSURED.

London, March 26. In the House of Commons, replying to a motion by Mr. Newman, asking for a declaration by the Government on fiscal policy, Mr. Bonar Law said the prosperity of the country depended upon increased production and the Government's efforts would be directed towards framing a policy on that basis. Imperial Preference would be carried out at the earliest possible moment. The Chancellor of the Exchequer was considering how to give effect thereto in the Budget. There would be no hesitation in announcing the general fiscal policy whenever it was possible to decide how it could be fulfilled in letter and spirit, but the Government must consider the best permanent system for the country. An Anti-Dumping Bill had been drafted, but it had not yet been examined by the Government. Mr. Bonar Law promised that the Government would arrive at a decision and announce it very soon.

In the course of an argument in favour of tariffs, Mr. Bonar Law contended that the most vital vested interest was high wages. He asked Labour how it was possible to maintain high wages if cotton goods from Japan were put on the market at a lower price than our manufacturers must pay for cotton. It was ridiculous to suppose that the old conditions could continue. For instance, a preference on sugar would enormously affect the Empire's production of sugar. It was not too much to say we would not have gained victory but for the help of the Dominions' fellow-subjects. (Cheers). Therefore any measure increasing the productive power and manpower of the Dominions was a good thing for Britain as well as the Empire.

The motion was talked out.

ADVANCING TIDE OF BOLSHEVISM.

ALLIED ATTEMPT TO STEM IT.

London, March 26. In the House of Commons, Mr. Churchill reviewed the situation in Russia. He said that there was very little fighting in Murransk and Archangel. An immense front was held with the greatest economy by means of block houses. Movement on the Dvina was at present impossible, but dispositions were taken to carry out any decision.

The Estonians and Lithuanians appealed to us for protection against the Bolsheviks. This was promised and the Estonians were partly supplied by the British with arms and ammunition. The fight had shown the weakness of the Bolsheviks. We were not discouraging operations.

A German force was moving towards Windau, possibly to Riga. He had not received an official confirmation of the Bolshevik invasion of Hungary.

The position in Poland was anarchic and might degenerate under the Bolshevik attack.

The position in Rumania was anxious. He hoped that energetic efforts would be made to succour Rumania, which was our great buttress against the advancing tide of Bolshevism.

HOME RACING.

London, March 26.

The Lincolnshire Handicap resulted as follows:—

- Royal Bucks.....1.
- River Shore.....2.
- Somerville.....3.

Fifteen ran; won by two lengths; four lengths between second and third.

The betting was:—100 to 7 Royal Bucks; 100 to 30 River Shore; 3 to 1 Somerville.

THE LABOUR DISPUTE AT HOME.

MINERS RECOMMENDED TO RETURN TO WORK.

London, March 26. The Miners' Conference has decided to recommend their members to accept the Sankey Report, and a ballot will be taken on the question. The form and date of the ballot will be decided later to-day.

FRANCE'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS RUSSIA.

NOISY DEBATE IN THE CHAMBER.

Paris, March 27. In the Chamber, M. Pichon denied that the Government was unjustly warring against Russia. It had not deviated from the policy approved by the Chamber three months ago, under which the troops were ordered not to interfere in Russia's domestic policy but to establish order with the help of the Russians in fighting the Bolsheviks who had seized power by the violation of all laws. They were not fighting Russia, their former Ally, to whom they remained loyal, but a scourge to humanity. M. Pichon was subjected to a continuous uproar of interruptions and insults on the part of Socialists.

GERMAN TRIALS.

Copenhagen, March 26.

A message from Berlin confirms the report that the Government intends to propose to the National Assembly the establishment of a State Tribunal to try all persons desiring trial in connection with the war, including Herr Bethmann, Hollweg and General Ludendorff.

BERLIN CONGRATULATES HUNGARY.

Berlin, March 26.

A plenary meeting of the Soviets of Greater Berlin telegraphed congratulating the Hungarian Soviet Government and promising to support it until the triumph of Socialism is assured everywhere.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

FRENCH APPEAL TO PEACE DELEGATES.

DEMAND FOR MORE SOLICITUDE FOR PUBLIC OPINION.

Paris, March 23. French newspapers publish editorials protesting against the measure information issued to the French Press concerning the Conference, and advise the Governments represented at the Conference table to show confidence in their peoples, solicit public opinion and associate as much possible with the mass of the citizens in the work of peace.

Much attention has been paid to these editorials. In a speech in the Chamber of Deputies, in the course of a debate on electoral reform, M. Briand said the country must feel that it has not come out of the war to find politicians unchanged. When public life was resumed, the people would not possibly be satisfied with vague formulae.—Havas.

MR. WILSON'S TOUR THROUGH FRENCH BATTLEFIELDS.

INSTRUCTIVE BUT PAINFULLY DISTRESSING.

Paris, March 24. President Wilson left on Sunday morning in an automobile on a tour on the battlefields. He went through Chateau Thierry and Soissons, along the Chemin-des-Dames, Laon, Meuse, Roye, and Montdidier and the emplacement of the Big Bertha. President Wilson remarked that the tour was very instructive, exceedingly painful and deeply distressing, enabling him to have a fuller conception of the extraordinary suffering of the people of France.—Havas.

EQUALITY OF NATIONALS.

WHAT JAPAN ASKS.

Paris, March 25. The Japanese proposal for the insertion of a clause eliminating racial inequalities must be admitted before the re-draft of the League of Nations Covenant is presented to the world. The Japanese do not demand a specific clause upon the subject, but ask that, in a preamble, the principle of equality of nationals of all signatories be recognised.—Havas.

THE ORIGIN OF THE WAR.

MORE PROOF ACQUIRED.

Paris, March 24. President Poincare, in a speech at the re-opening of the Ecole Normale Supérieure at Paris, told the students that another proof had fallen into the hands of the French Government concerning the responsibility for the war.

On July 11th the Austrian Ambassador at Paris had been informed by the Austrian Chancery that the Central Empire was in complete agreement on the political situation arising out of the Sarajevo murder and on all eventual circumstances.—Havas.

ALLIED WAR CASUALTIES.

COMPARATIVE PERCENTAGES.

Paris, March 24. The Allied losses in killed during the war number roughly 2,550,000 men. Compared by the French Press with the population in the different countries, France lost 3.37 per cent, Great Britain 1.5 per cent, Italy 1.33, and the United States 0.13 per cent.—Havas.

MARSEILLES-PARIS AERIAL LIGHT.

Paris, March 24. Lieutenant Roget has made a flight from Marseilles to Paris in 34 hours. The average speed was 125 miles per hour.—Havas.

FRENCH AEROPLANE MAIL SERVICES.

Paris, March 23. Aeroplane mail services from Paris to Bordeaux will begin to-day.—Havas.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

(By Courtesy of the "South China Morning Post.")

SINGAPORE PURITY CAMPAIGN.

Singapore, March 29. At the meeting of the Legislative Council to be held on Monday the Government will be asked if it is willing to appoint a Commission to enquire into the question of brothels and venereal disease.

NEWS BY WIRELESS.

("Daily Bulletin" Service).

U. S. SURPLUS WAR STOCKS.

Washington, March 29.

The War Department has announced that it has sold to foreign Governments more than \$200,000,000 worth of surplus war stock.

France purchased smokeless powder, copper, cannon, and steel plates, among other stock, for which \$150,000,000 has been received. Italy bought \$41,000,000 worth of machine guns, ammunition and other supplies.

The Netherlands bought \$585,000 worth of nitrate of soda. Czechoslovakia bought \$100,000 worth of aeroplanes and supplies, and \$496,000 worth of soldiers' personal equipment, \$294,000 worth of machine guns, and \$171,000 worth of hand grenades. Other purchasers were: Great Britain, \$2,300,000; Cuba, \$188,000; Liberia, \$14,300; and Switzerland, \$9,500.—American Wireless.

U. S. WHEAT FLOUR EXPORT.

Washington, March 29.

The War Trade Board announced to-day that applications for wheat and flour exports will be received for points for Eastern Asia on the coast, including Siberia, Manchuria, Japan, Borneo, China, Siam, French Indo-China, Malay States, Straits Settlements and East Indies.—American Wireless.

HONGKONG'S HOUSING QUESTION.

III.—Possible Remedial Measures.

(Special to the "Telegraph.")

It is easy to find fault, and to detail obvious ills, but it is more difficult to suggest remedies of a practical nature. An honest attempt will now be made to indicate a few of the lines along which Hongkong might proceed in solving its housing problem. Criticism is only of real value if it is constructive criticism, and the writer has no inclination to stay his hand at this stage and lay himself open to the charge that he can heap maledictions upon the Government, and others responsible, by their apathy and lack of foresight, for the situation, but cannot help them to mend their ways. And he hastens to add that for much that follows he must again acknowledge his indebtedness to the Report of the Singapore Housing Commission. That Report might well be the Bible of every Government official, architect, land owner and builder in Hongkong for the next year or two. It furnishes "Lessons" for every day in the month. And it has Commandments—far more than ten of them—which supply workable ethics for housing reformers, and save one from having recourse to the strange medley of suggestions, some of real value, many freakish and impossible—which are forthcoming at Club bars, in post-prandial debates, and in the correspondence columns of the newspapers.

QUARTERS FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS.

Perhaps the first thing demanded, and that urgently, is that all public servants should be housed, and that for two main reasons. The first of these is that public servants, whether of cadet or subordinate rank, never reach the scale of pay that is obtainable by men of similar type in reputable commercial firms. "Pensions" the Oracle reminds one. But pensions come late in life, and many public servants never live to "enjoy" them (they are not too munificent, anyway), and housing is a matter of the moment. And as poorly or moderately paid people feel the pinch most keenly, they should be provided for first. The second main reason is that the State, through its employees, should not be in the position of competing with private individuals for such accommodation as there is; that is wrong in principle, apart from the irrefragable fact that the State, through its own grievous fault, is chiefly responsible for the current crisis as regards housing.

In the Straits this policy has already been formally adopted by the Government, and only three weeks ago a resolution was passed by the Legislative Council voting nearly \$25,000 to meet the cost of vacant land purchased at public auction for the purpose of erecting quarters for Government officers. That is the strictly correct method—to buy vacant land and have the quarters newly built. It would be an Irishman's way of dealing with the matter to buy up existing houses, yet a way of which notable instances can be cited. Officialdom finds it hard to go round by the path and climb stairs when there is an easier if wrongful course straight through the corn.

THE CONTRACTORS' RINGS. Of course, the Government is in an unfortunate position as a builder. The public intimation that "tenders are invited" acts like a bugle call to action upon the contractors, who collect their forces, hold a council of war, and the battle is won before it is begun. Only big contractors can tackle big jobs, for big jobs call for big capital, and the big contractors are necessarily few, and to some extent they also control the lesser contractors, who are glad to

accept occasional small mercies at their hands, and therefore dare not attempt any monkey-tricks which might endanger the deeply-laid plans of their patrons. Thus the big contractors are in command of the situation, and the "ring" of the big contractors is like the "square" of the old-time British infantry—very hard to break. It may be said that it is always open to the Government to do its larger constructional jobs departmentally. That is so, but experience has shown that that remedy might be a good deal worse than the disease. For various reasons, into which one need not enter here, departmental undertakings are almost invariably very costly. Thus either way the Government, in embarking upon a large-scale housing programme (which is its bounden duty), is possibly in for a very indifferent investment—for there is one absolute condition of such a programme, and that is that the rents for the houses must be pronouncedly modest, if being essential that in this matter the Government should set a good example for all who will and can follow. And so doth retribution overtake the guilty. The Government must undeniably face the fact that it must pay the penalty for its sins in the past. In other quarters, too, that reflection must be taken home like a roosting chicken.

DUTY OF WEALTHY FIRMS.

After the Government come the big firms. The prosperity of the Colony is their prosperity, and they cannot lightly overlook the claims of those their employees without whom that prosperity would be impossible. A contented, easy-circumstanced employee is good value for money; one who is constantly harassed by private worries cannot be as ever so willing, give of his best to his employer. And no private worry is more harassing than disaster to the domestic budget through extortionate rent, or the actual absence of that for which an extortionate rent could be paid. Undoubtedly, every firm with sufficient funds at its disposal should house its employees, again, in new houses, not old ones acquired for the purpose. And here, even more than in the case of the public authorities, the matter need not be looked at from a dividend-paying basis. Whatever the cost, good housing for employees is worth while, and brings a sure return, even if that return be indirect and impossible of balance-sheet record. There has been good pioneer work in this direction in this Colony, in Kowloon and at Taikoo. And no-one is in a position to speak with authority will say that it has not paid.

OFFICIALLY CONTROLLED RENTS.

Now, if we get all public servants, and all employees of big firms, comfortably housed, competition for the remaining accommodation in the Colony will be perceptibly reduced, and so far as that accommodation goes, a great deal of the prevailing serious trouble will be obviated by one simple measure—control of rents. Profiteering in house-space should be no more permitted than profiteering in rice. It is the public who create the demand, whether it exceeds or falls short of the supply, and they should not be disastrously penalised on account of their own urgent needs, when the supply end of the question is in other hands which they are quite powerless to control. Another instance where the traditional and oft-unchallenged appeal to "the inexorable law of supply and demand" is condemned by common-sense as absurd and out-of-date. It is not the law which is inexorable. The law is a mere

(Continued on page 9.)

To-Day's Exchange.

The closing rate of the dollar on demand to-day was \$4.21 1/2.

The Weather.

Forecast—rain. Barometer—30.01. Temperature 2 p.m.—61. Humidity 2 p.m.—66.

EMPRESS BOATS.

COMMANDEERED.

NEARLY 1,000 PASSAGES CANCELLED.

There are further disappointments for those shortly intending to go home on leave, for it will be seen from announcements in our advertising columns that owing to military requisition the C.P.O.S. has regretfully to announce the cancellation of passage bookings made for the following sailings:—

- s.s. Montevideo, April 25th.
- s.s. Empress of Russia, May 1st.
- s.s. Empress of Japan, May 14th.
- s.s. Empress of Asia, May 29th.

The Company announces that refund in full of all passage money will be made on application.

This announcement will cause no little consternation among those affected, especially following so closely on the cancellation of the passages by the P. and O. steamers Nore and Nellore recently. We understand that all the boats named were fully booked, the Empress of Russia and the Empress of Asia carrying 232 passengers each, the Montevideo 197 and the Empress of Japan 194. There will thus be no fewer than 975 passages cancelled.

So far as can be at present learned, the boats have only been commandeered for the single trip in each instance. It will be remembered that all these vessels were only just recently released from Government requisition.

HONGKONG MILITARY SERVICE RECRUITS.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEIR RETURN.

We are officially advised that the following information by cable has been received from India by the Military Authorities here regarding the disposal of "Hongkong Military Service Recruits" who were drafted to India:—

"Arrangements are now being made to return to Hongkong those men serving at Salonica with exception of Jack, Jack, L. Gainsborough, G. E. Matthewsman, T., who have been invalided to England from Salonica. Ten men in India now under orders to return to Hongkong. None invalided to England and Thomas in hospital."

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Coronet Theatre—9.15 p.m.

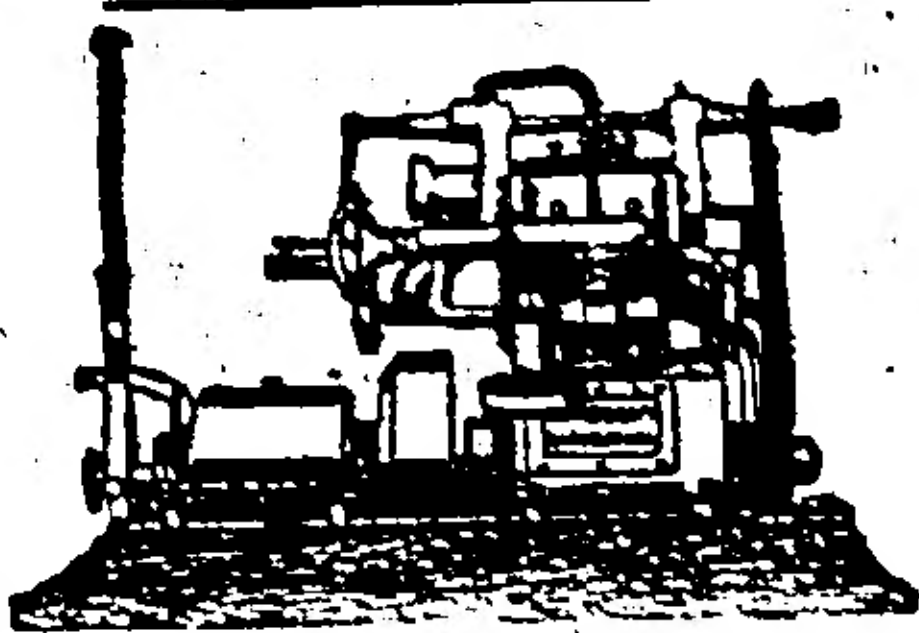
TO-MORROW.

China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co.—Shareholders' meeting—11 a.m.
Government House—Presentation of Motor Ambulance—6 p.m.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Coronet Theatre—9.15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2.

"Pinkie and the Fairies" Matinee at Theatre Royal—4 p.m.

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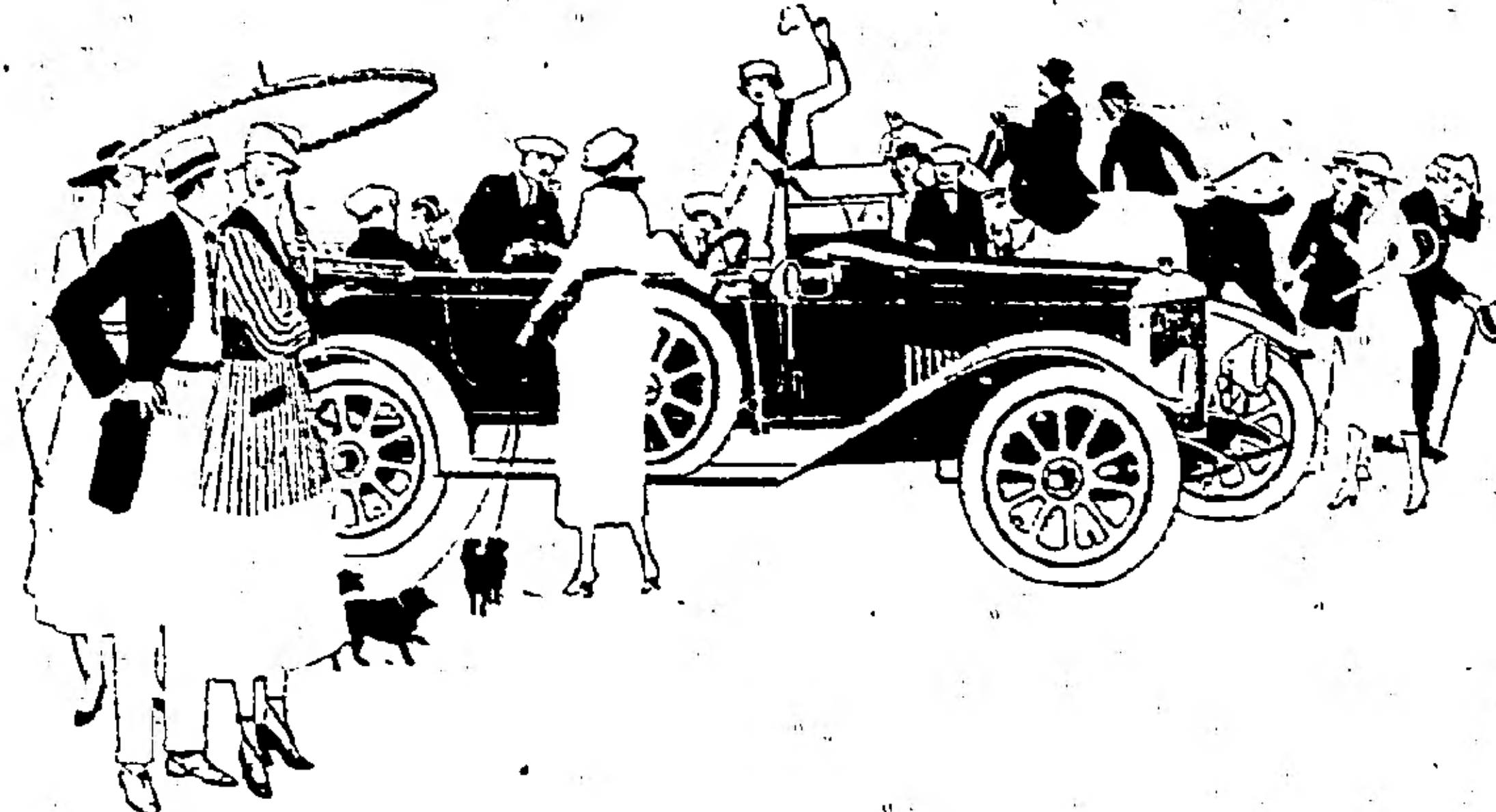
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YESTERDAY'S TELEGRAMS.

THE HUNGARIAN UPHEAVAL.

Berlin, March 23.
The "Vossische Zeitung's" Budapest correspondent says the situation was untenable, even before the Entente Note was delivered. The demands of the unemployed and the Communists have lately been very excessive, including the payment of house rent and the halving of food prices. All the Cabinet's concessions are ineffectual in staving off the revolution which is impending.
When the Entente Note arrived Count Karolyi seized on it as a pretext to represent himself as a friend of the proletariat.

Berlin, Mar. 24.
A message from Budapest says: The city is quiet. The Government has proclaimed martial law for plundering and armed resistance to the Soviet Government. It has prohibited the sale of alcohol and the carrying of arms by anyone except workers on guard. The bourgeois papers appeared on Saturday uncensored. Resistance by the bourgeois is nowhere visible. The

Slovak Government has ordered the mobilisation of five levies.

Paris, March 24.
The "Echo de Paris" states that two French divisions, several Serbian divisions and the Rumanian army are in a position to deal with the situation in Hungary.

A message from Zurich says a Bolshevik army of seventy thousand, commanded by Colonel Georgy composed mainly of Hungarian and Bulgarian war prisoners from Russia crossed the Dniester south of Lemberg.

It is reported that Count Brockdorff Rantzau is sending the socialist, Kautsky, to Moscow to negotiate with the Bolsheviks.

Copenhagen, March 24.
A message from Vienna states that the ex-emperor and family have gone to Switzerland.

A Berlin message says that the plenary committee of Workers' Councils of German-Austria resolved, that in view of German Austria's complete dependence on the Entente for food, they could not accede to the present to their Hungarian comrades, appeal to them to enter contact with the Russian Soviet Government, but would be ready for all eventualities and continue as day uncensored. Resistance by the bourgeois is nowhere visible. The

Copenhagen, March 23.
According to a message from Berlin it transpires that there was firing at Budapest on Friday and Saturday with many casualties. There was much plundering of foodshops and jeweller's shops.

From Vienna it is stated that the rumoured advance of Russian Soviet troops under Georgy, mentioned on March 24, is incorrect.

A message from Budapest says: The National Council upon the motion of the President has decided to dissolve. Karolyi's party has been similarly dissolved. It was decided to support the Revolutionary Government.

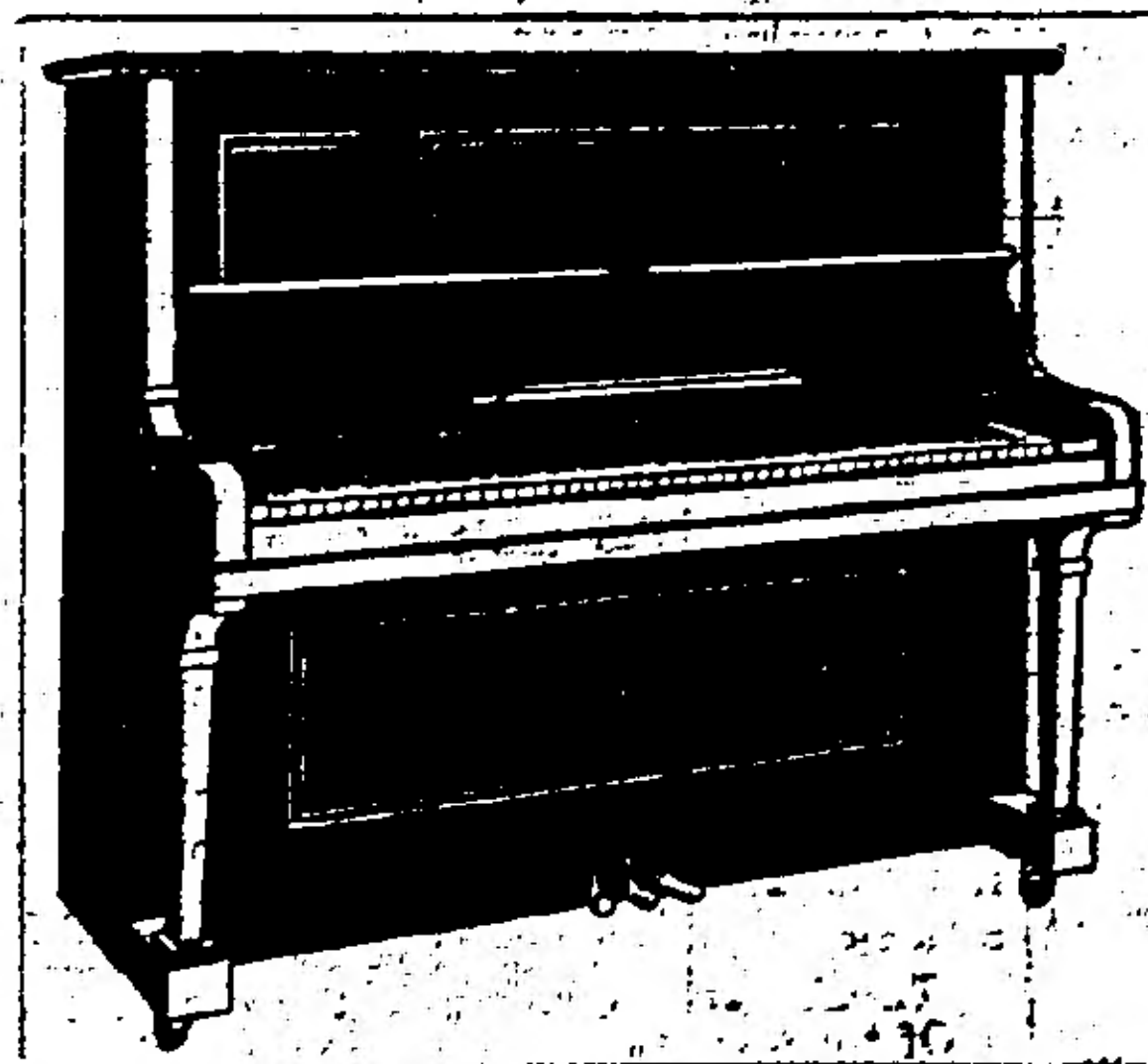
London, March 23.
The "Times" Vienna correspondent says: It is officially declared that the Entente missions have quitted Budapest. The foreign officers were disarmed and their decorations removed when the revolution broke out on Friday, the Franco-British detachment on the 24th and the men were disarmed on Saturday. The frontiers are now closed and little news is received.

M. Tchitcherine has wirelessed to Budapest welcoming a valuable ally as the position of the Bolshevik armies is difficult.
Prague, March 23.
It is reported from Budapest that Colonel Vix, head of the French Military Mission, who had been wounded and taken prisoner, and Major Freeman, of the British Military Mission have escaped from Budapest.
An unconfirmed report states that Count Karolyi has been assassinated.

AERIAL MATTERS.

London, March 23.
In the House of Commons, replying to Mr. Hurd, Colonel Seely said the Dominions had been asked to appoint suitable officers for liaison between the respective governments and the Air Ministry. Some of these officers had taken up their duties and are the channel for assisting in complete interchange of information and views. Regarding aerial commerce and communications within the Empire the representatives of the Dominions and India in Paris are assisting the air section of the British Peace Delegation. Their cooperation has been of great help in the consideration of the International Aerial Convention and the regulation rules of the air. The Dominions concerned are also being consulted by the Department of Civil Aviation respecting aerial communication and routes and every endeavour is being made to keep in close touch.

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PRICES SENT ON APPLICATION.

THE PARIS CONFERENCES.

Paris, March 24.
The Peace Conference has decided that no details of proceedings may be published except those contained in the communique, which does not indicate the date of the next meeting of the Council of Ten. French diplomats state the Council's labours will be continued as private conversations, which will not be held in the Quin d'Orsay. French newspapers sharply criticise this reported decision.

Paris, March 24.
The "Temps" is authentically informed that the Italian Delegation reported decision regarding the Peace Conference, dated on March 21, is in effect.

Paris, March 23.
The conference between M. Clemenceau, Mr. Lloyd George, Signor Orlando and President Wilson continued till late this afternoon. No secretaries or stenographers were present. It is understood that good progress has been made with the Peace Treaty.

TROUBLE IN SPAIN.

Madrid, March 23.
There was a general strike at Barcelona on the 23rd. Martial law was proclaimed on the 24th.

Madrid, March 24.
Martial law will possibly be extended to the whole of Spain. The law has been proclaimed throughout Spain.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the "Telegraph")
THE LABOUR SITUATION.

London, March 24.
Nearly 2000 miners in the Rhondda Valley struck to-day, as a protest against the Government's non-acceptance of all the demands of the Miners' Federation.

London, March 25.
Despite the action of the Rhondda strikers, who now number 21,000, the labour situation is hopeful owing to the belief that the conference between the Government and the miners will secure a final settlement. Moreover, Mr. Bromley, who was mentioned last evening as being optimistic as regards a railway settlement, said that to-day's conference had reached a general agreement although it was not a final settlement. He was more confident than ever that the negotiations would achieve the desired results in a few days.

London, March 26.
The Press Bureau publishes the unanimous report of the Provisional Joint Committee appointed by the Industrial Conference on 25th February to consider the causes of the present unrest, questions of hours, wages and unemployment, promotion of cooperation between capital and labour, the recommendation "inter alia" of the legal establishment of the principle of a forty-eight hour week, discouragement of systematic overtime, minimum time rates of wages, organised short time in periods of depression, acceleration of the Government housing schemes, the state of development of new industries, more adequate provision for unemployment, sickness, infirmity and old age, establishment of a permanent National Industrial Council to advise the Government consisting of four hundred members elected equally by the Trade Unions and employers. In the event of the conference being held on the 10th April adopting the report, the Committee urges the Government to give effect thereto forthwith.

In a conference with the executive of the Miners' Federation and the Government, Mr. Bonar Law, in the course of a long conciliatory statement dealing with the miners' proposed modifications of the Sankey report, said the Government was unable to go beyond Mr. Justice Sankey's chief recommendations.

Mr. Bonar Law emphasised the great benefits that would be accruing to the miners if the report was accepted and the strike averted and from the anticipated fall in the cost of living before the end of the year. Moreover, a commission would continue to sit and would issue interim reports as regards the betterment of mining conditions.

Mr. Smilie, M.P., replying, undertook to fully submit the position to the Miners' Conference on the 26th, and expressed the opinion that the continuation of the commission probably opened a new era, which would possibly do more to bring peace and prosperity to the mining industry than anything hitherto done.

FEEDING THE GERMANS.

Paris, March 24.
The Supreme Economic Council has fixed the list of commodities which Germany is prohibited from exporting during the armistice. It has also arranged details regarding payment for food by exports and has approved of measures giving German fishing vessels greater freedom in their own waters. Mr. Hoover is sending a consignment of foodstuffs to Hamburg immediately, including two ship loads for Czechoslovakia, and is also facilitating shipment of food to Estonia and Poland.

London, March 24.
In the House of Commons, replying to Com. Wedgwood, Mr. McCurdy, Secretary to the Food Controller, stated that no food had yet been sent to Germany except to the areas occupied by the Allies. Food would not be sent to unoccupied Germany until the German Government fulfilled the preliminary conditions with regard to shipping and finance. Supplies were already in Rotterdam in anticipation of the fulfilment of these conditions. About 45,000 tons of foodstuffs had arrived for German Austria.

Copenhagen, March 24.
Food ships are leaving the principal German ports for Allied ports.

SURRENDERED MERCHANTMEN.

London, March 25.
The first of the surrendered German merchantmen have arrived at British ports.

NOTICES.

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THE EGYPTIAN SITUATION.

London, March 24.
In the House of Commons at question time Sir R. L. Harmsworth stated that there was every indication that the general improvement in the situation in Egypt is being maintained. The acting High Commissioner reported that the firm action of the authorities is having due effect and Cairo and Alexandria have continued quiet. In Bahariya province agricultural work appeared to be proceeding normally except in the district between Dammanhour and Kafrelsayat, but possibly the Bedonias in the western district of that province might attempt further marauding expeditions.

London, March 24.
In the House of Commons at question time Sir R. L. Harmsworth stated that the latest reports showed that railway communication between Cairo and Alexandria and the telegraphic communication between Cairo and Tanta were restored. Wireless telegraphy was being used between Cairo and Alexandria. The situation was undoubtedly causing anxiety. He emphasised that General Sir F. R. Wingate would be remaining in England to afford valuable advice and assistance to the Government, who would fully support General Allenby in dealing with the situation. He did not think that General F. R. Wingate would in any way be superseded.

London, March 25.
The latest official Egyptian news states that a detachment of troops from the Sudan has been sent to occupy Assuan. The situation in Egypt is steadily improving.

Cairo, March 17.
General Watson summoned the leaders of Zagloul's party, whom he told he would hold responsible for the dreadful excesses, and called upon them to exercise their utmost influence to prevent disturbances. He said the British Army had hitherto dealt lightly with the situation, but, if the disorders were not

stopped, stronger measures would be necessary. They leaders protested their innocence and declared that the agitation was beyond their control. They expressed their anxiety to carry out General Watson's demand.

Cairo, March 25.
The cab drivers have struck. Fresh disorder has occurred at Cairo, in which the Military dispersed the crowds attempting to storm the Government printing works. Unsuccessful attacks were made upon the Helwan railway, bridges, lines and telegraphs.

CANADA'S WAR CLAIMS.

Ottawa, March 25.
In the House of Commons Mr. Durne, member for Outremont, Quebec, moved a resolution that the Premier, Sir Robert Borden, be instructed to take steps to claim from Germany an indemnity corresponding to Canada's war expenditure, or to claim this amount from the indemnity Britain receives from Germany. Sir Thomas White, acting Premier, said that Canada's claims for indemnity and reparation will be forwarded to Sir Robert Borden and he is certain they will be presented at the Conference like those of other parts of the Empire, but he considered it inadvisable that Sir Robert Borden's hands be fettered by a resolution of Parliament. He added "I am sure that Britain will desire, as she always has, to act in this matter as in others, with the most scrupulous sense of justice and even generosity." The resolution was withdrawn.

BAVARIA INDEPENDENT.

Zurich, March 24.
The Bavarian Foreign Minister has informed the German Government that Bavaria is disarming her forces and will not henceforth furnish soldiers for the Empire.

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THE PEACE TREATY.

Paris, March 25.
In view of the seriousness of the European situation a big effort is being made to have the Peace Treaty ready within a week. Practically all the terms have been formulated and Mr. Lloyd George, M. Clemenceau, President Wilson and Signor Orlando are concentrating their efforts on their final shaping.

TRANS-ATLANTIC FLIGHT.

Washington, March 24.
Several huge aeroplanes are preparing a Trans-Atlantic flight, which the Navy Department will be undertaking shortly. Possibly, three machines will participate in the flight on the theory that the greater the number the greater the chances of success.

A GERMAN THREAT.

Copenhagen, March 25.
At a Berlin demonstration of protest against the "dismemberment of Germany" Herr Erzberger declared that Germany would not sign a peace involving the annexation of Danzig, West Prussia and part of Upper Silesia.

PETROGRAD'S PLIGHT.

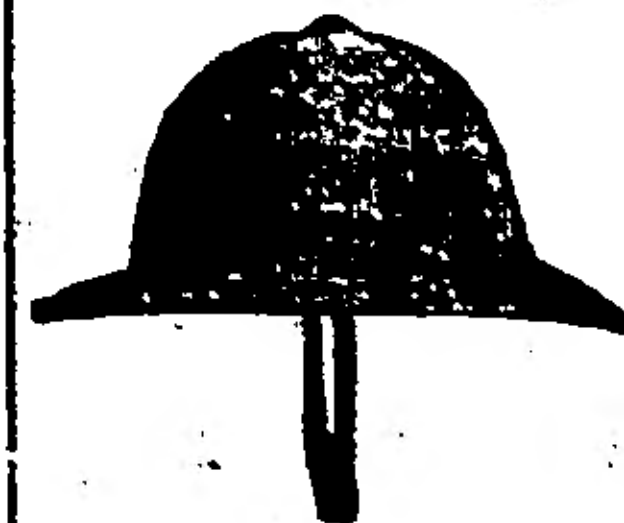
Helsingfors, March 24.
Beside spotted fever, typhus and small pox are also ravaging Petrograd. All the hospitals are crowded. Mortality is increasing daily. The corpses are collected into big wooden cases, which, after being emptied into big graves, are sent back to the hospitals for new loads.

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The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, MONDAY, MARCH 31, 1919.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Much time and attention have been given at the gatherings held in Paris to specific questions in which the various Powers have had a special interest. Difficulties have been encountered, as was to be expected in view of the wide diversity of issues raised, but, so far at any rate, there has been apparent a strong desire on the part of practically all the delegates to secure lasting settlement of the various problems raised, and this desire has been demonstrated by a spirit of all-round compromise distinctly to the credit of the several nations represented at the conference. But over and above all particular issues discussed there has been the great general question of the League of Nations. It has been realised from the beginning that the institution of such a League, whose chief business it would be to preserve world peace, would be a matter of considerable difficulty, for many a policy which is theoretically sound is found none too easy of translation into actual operation. There has been general agreement among all nations represented at Paris that such a League, if it could be established on a workable basis, would do more than anything else towards saving the world from such a calamity as that through which it has just passed. The principle involved finds ready acceptance; the main difficulty has been to find a working basis.

It is obvious, as Lord Robert Cecil points out, that a League of Nations must be embodied in the Peace Treaty, for the simple reason that the nomination of mandatories to take over the erstwhile German Colonies presupposes "the creation of such a body. To conclude peace by a re-arrangement of the map of the world, without first instituting the League, would possibly mean that this particular project would be indefinitely shelved and regarded merely as a pious aspiration, too thorny to be taken up and put into effect. Since the draft of the League was published, it has undergone most critical examination, and besides the Allied Powers, neutral States have been called in to examine its provisions, with a view to admission into the League. This is a decidedly wise step, for the greater the number of nations joined together, the greater the chances of the organisation being an effective force. Japan has raised a point which has not found acceptance with the other Allied Powers, and that is that equality of treatment should be accorded to the nationals of all members of League. Were all the countries in the same state of civilisation and advancement, such a policy would be workable, but an acceptance of the point now would cause tremendous industrial difficulties, especially in those countries where any general admission of Asiatic labourers is prohibited in the interests of the working classes of these particular lands. The difficulty of dealing with this point has apparently been overcome by allowing each nation within the League to deal as it sees fit with matters solely within its own jurisdiction. How that will work out in practice, time will tell, though on the face of it a very large discretion appears to be invested in individual nations.

Another big question involved is that of the reduction of armaments. The idea first favoured was that no nation in the League should be permitted armed forces of such dimensions as were calculated to jeopardise the peace of the world. It has now been resolved that the Supreme Council shall formulate a plan for the reduction of armaments, the powers of the Council being limited to simple recommendations to the Governments affected. This is about the most ticklish question of all, for no general standard can be laid down to suit all and sundry. Nothing will be gained by reducing the armed strength of members of the League to relative impotency whilst countries outside the League follow their own inclinations in the matter. The peculiar position of each nation must be taken into account. Still, we may be sure that this aspect of the problem will be taken into full account, and the advice of the Supreme Council will be awaited with the deepest general interest.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

HONGKONG'S FUTURE.

The recent launching of the 8,000-ton steamer War Snipe at the Kowloon Docks, and the fact that the Company has five similar ships in various stages of completion, point to the splendid facilities which Hongkong offers for shipbuilding. During the war, this dockyard, and the Tai Koo establishment as well, have done much to illustrate what this Colony is capable of so far as ship construction goes. As the retiring President of the Institution of Shipbuilders and Engineers pointed out in his annual speech, dockyard owners have kept pace with the times during recent years by enlarging their establishments, and though that circumstance has not been as fully taken advantage of as it might have been by the Home Government in the early stages of the submarine menace, what has been achieved will be sure to add to the future status of Hongkong as a great shipbuilding and engineering centre. Seeds have been sown during the war which will bear fruit in the days ahead, for there is no doubt that Hongkong has a big future ahead in this particular respect.

THE HUNGARIAN SITUATION.

Of the seriousness of the Hungarian situation there can be no doubt, for the evidence is as clear as day that the country has taken Bolshevism into its bosom. The Government has, in its Proclamation, laid the blame for this development on the Entente, arguing that the decision to occupy part of Hungary is intended to facilitate operations against the Russian Soviet troops, with whom the Hungarians have now resolved to join hands. But unhappily for the Hungarian spokesmen, the fact is now confirmed from the Buda Pest correspondent of a German paper—that the situation had become untenable before the Entente Note was delivered. This authority says that the demands of the unemployed and the communists had become most excessive and that all the Cabinet's concessions were ineffectual to stave off the Revolution which was pending. So, when the Entente Note arrived, Count Karolyi seized the opportunity to represent himself as the friend of the Proletariat by laying the blame on the Allies for forcing the Revolution.

DIFFERENT METHODS.

These appear to be the facts of the matter. The Hungarian Government, faced with the extreme demands of the populace, was utterly unable to control the situation, and, to save their own skins, the Ministers threw in their lot with the revolutionists by the simple process of declaring themselves in sympathy with the latter's Bolshevist predilections. The situation is rather different from that which obtained in Russia when the Revolution there broke out. The Russian Proletariat set about their task by scattering the members of the old regime and themselves taking the reins of government. The Hungarian statesmen, scenting danger, have taken the more wily course of declaring themselves converted to the standpoint of the masses. But the eventual upshot is just the same in the two countries. Both have drifted into a Revolution, and to-day the government of both peoples is in the hands of Bolshevists, either real or professed. Seeing what has happened in Russia, we cannot but view the Hungarian developments with some measure of anxiety, especially in face of the attempts of the Russian and Hungarian Soviet Armies, to effect a junction. It looks as though strong military measures will even yet be necessary to prevent a situation of the utmost awkwardness developing into something far more tragic. When even one nation becomes permeated with Bolshevism it is bad enough when two are affected, matters are infinitely worse. Evidently the time for world peace has not come yet.

NEW JAPANESE LINE.

The Ocean Steamship Co., with a capital of 20 million yen, is being organised by Mr. Ginjiro Katsuta and other shipowners at Kobe. Five 10,000-ton and two 5,000-ton steamers which are now under construction at the Osaka Iron Works will be put in service, over the triangular course Yokohama-Kobe-Shanghai-Hongkong-Singapore-Seattle.

DAY BY DAY.

MOST GOOD THINGS COME TO THOSE WHO HUSTLE WHILE THEY WAIT.

Saturday's health return shows six cases of cerebro-spinal fever (three fatal) and two fatal occurrences of plague. All were Chinese.

The total output of the Kailash Mining Administration's mines for the week ending March 15 amounted to 74,423 tons and the sales during the period to 60,089 tons.

The Wigwag Lawn Tennis Club was to have held a Spoken Competition on Saturday, but the rain interfered. A Competition will, however, be held next Saturday, weather permitting.

The departure from Swatow of the nine Germans who were to have arrived in Hongkong per s.s. Haitan yesterday, has been delayed. They are expected to reach the Colony in about ten days time.

Mr. Hall, of Messrs. Lo and Lo, attended before Mr. G. N. Orme this morning and asked for a remand in a case in which a Chinese was charged with being in possession of four lbs of opium. Bail was fixed at \$500, the case being remanded until tomorrow.

The local branch of the American Express Company has offered a reward of \$200 for the apprehension of G. F. Alves, formerly resident in the Colony, who is alleged to have stolen eleven of the Company's "Travelers' Cheques" from a Mr. W. Kiebits, in San Francisco.

To meet the insistent demand for seats, the A.D.C. has decided to give a popular matinee on Thursday, 3rd April, at popular prices, namely:—Dress Circle and Stall, \$2; Pit and Gallery, \$1; children at half price. This is positively the last appearance of Pinkie and her friends, as the fairies are booked for other parties.

The annual dinner of the University Engineering Society will be held in the Great Hall of the University on Friday next, April 4th, at 7.30 p.m. It is hoped that all the past and present Engineering students of the University will be present. Communications should be addressed to Mr. Khoo Khoo Hant, at the University.

Among the passengers who left Hongkong on Saturday by the Empress of Asia was the Hon. Mr. E. L. Sharp, K.C., who will be away for six months. It will be remembered that he was to have gone home last year, but the Military Service Ordinance came into force, and as he was appointed Chairman of the Exemption Tribunal he had perforce to cancel his going away.

A parade of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade has been ordered for 6 p.m. to-morrow, Tuesday, at Government House, when His Excellency the Governor will present the motor ambulance which has been given by the Hongkong Automobile Association. Members of the Association and friends are invited to attend. Nursing Pendants, Bars, Medallions and Certificates will be presented at the same time. Members of the No. 1 V.A.D. are requested to be in attendance at Government House not later than 5.50 p.m. Indoor Uniform to be worn.

Following the receipt of information that a Chinese living at Macgregor Street was concerned in the Whitefield armed robbery, the Police, under Sergeant Cockle, went to the place and arrested the Chinese and his wife. A quantity of pepper and there—gags, used in armed robberies, were discovered and the man and woman were this morning produced before the Magistrate as evidence. The Magistrate, Mr. Orme, sent the man to prison for three months. The woman was discharged for lack of sufficient evidence.

CURRENT COIN.

[BY "MERCATOR."]

The sensation of the week in financial circles in China was the judgment delivered in Shanghai by His Honour Sir Haviland de Sausmarez in the action brought by a broker, Mr. G. J. W. Morgan, against his client, Mr. A. C. Mack, for Taels 14,686 on certain forward share contracts. Law, to have its effects, must be permanent and stable. We may have a law, or we may have no law, but we cannot have half a law. We must either have a rule of action or be permitted to act by discretion and by chance. Wisely has it been said that he who would go to law must have a good cause, a good purse, a good attorney, a good advocate, good evidence, and a good judge and jury—and having all these goods, unless he has good luck, he will stand but a bad chance of success. Law, in its present state, like orthodoxy in religion, is a mystery where reason ends and faith begins. Society knows nothing about it but by means of the lawyer. A digested code of plain, undeniable legal principles, founded on the morality of common-sense applied to every day's transactions, might any day be turned down as the King's Regulation made by His Majesty's Minister, ruling forward contracts illegal, has been construed by His Honour Sir Haviland de Sausmarez as being not within the power of the Minister to make.

There is always something a little ludicrous about the spectacle of a sharebroker in pursuit of his legal remedies. It is hard to say why, but, like a sailor on horseback or a Quaker at the play, it suggests that incongruity which is the soul of things humorous. The Courts are, of course, as much open to brokers as to any other members of the community, and, to do them justice, the sharebrokers in China have shown little disposition to enter into them owing to the fact that forward transactions have been declared by virtue of Ordinances and King's Regulations as illegal and null and void. As the law stood in Shanghai, no broker could recover any sum from a principal as an indemnification for losses suffered. The law in Shanghai with regard to share transactions was clear enough, until it was left for His Honour Sir Haviland de Sausmarez to educate us on the powers of the King's Ministers. If it be asked how came it about that sharebrokers in Shanghai allowed themselves to be deprived of their claims, without so much as an expostulatory or a single epigram—it must be answered, strange as it may sound, that it happened through not bringing a test case in the British Court of Shanghai.

Let us examine, for a moment, how the member of the Shanghai Stock Exchange conducts his business. He has three different kinds of contract forms. When a broker buys from another broker he gives his client a blue contract, which signifies that he has bought from or sold to another broker. The white contract forms are for use between the brokers themselves. If a broker were selling for a client to one of the members of the Stock Exchange the same form would be used, but there would be a rubber stamp across the face of it to the effect that the shares were bought from one of the broker's clients.

The blue contract means that the broker has made another contract with another broker. A pink form (tell this not in Gath) informs the client that the broker has been selling his own shares or buying for himself! These forms, we understand, are authorised by the Shanghai Stock Exchange. Mr. H. H. Read, who has been Chairman of the Shanghai Stock Exchange, is reported to have said at one of the annual meetings that "it was high time that the Stock Exchange should become a dignified institution." Pink contracts by members give the Shanghai Stock Exchange a "pinkish" dignity. Was that the dignity that Mr. Read so piously looked forward to seeing? We believe that some brokers in Hongkong make it a practice to put a rubber stamp across

forward contracts with the intimation that the numbers of the shares purchased have not been entered on the contract by mutual consent, when there has been no actual mutual consent. Is that the dignity which we wish our Stock Exchange to aspire to? More of that anon.

His Honour Sir Haviland de Sausmarez's judgment is a remarkable document, and we for our part would certainly not be satisfied with accepting it as final. It is hoped that Mr. Mack will be prevailed upon to carry it to the Privy Council. Counsel for the broker described the King's Regulation as a sweeping one which cut right across the ordinary course of the well-understood business which had been carried out in England without similar restriction for a good many years. The fact was that the King's Regulation referred to made such contracts, as these claimed under by the plaintiff, illegal. The purpose of this particular King's Regulation was to stop, or, at any rate, put a check to, irresponsible gambling. After the King's Regulation was passed, a meeting of the Shanghai Stock Exchange was held, at which it was said that the effect of the Regulation would be to regulate dealings in forward business and to eliminate irresponsible and reckless gambling, and that the new state of affairs would uphold the dignity of the Exchange. The Committee of the Stock Exchange applied the King's Regulation to the conduct of its business by refusing recognition of any transaction in contravention of it. For two years they managed to enforce this rule, but at the end of May, 1917, a resolution was adopted that "the rule enforcing numbers on all forward contracts be abolished." Why was the rule rescinded? We presume that there is not much scope for legitimate share dealings on the Stock Exchange. The reason of the many Stock Exchange is to enable buyer and seller of shares to be brought together through the medium of a broker. Under the circumstances the buyer has a right to demand that the stocks he has contracted to purchase exist and are not in the air. From the decision of the Shanghai Stock Exchange Committee we can read only one clue and that is the proportion of legitimate business will not permit sharebrokers making a good living.

The meaning of the Shanghai Judge's decision is that this particular one of the King's Regulations is *ultra vires* and must be, there fore, considered inoperative. It is interesting to add that the Regulation with which the Shanghai judgment is concerned made transactions within its per view "illegal," whilst the Leeman's Act and our own Keswick Ordinance made them void.

The Shanghai judgment does not affect the Hongkong situation at all. The judgment merely held that the action of the Minister in making the King's Regulation was *ultra vires*. In Hongkong we have the Keswick Ordinance which makes the forward purchase of unnumbered shares null and void. This Ordinance provides that "every contract, agreement and token of sale and purchase be made or entered into for the sale or transfer, or purporting to be for the sale or transfer, of any shares or of any stock under or regulated by the provisions of any Act of Parliament, local Ordinance, Royal Charter or Letters Patent, shall be null and void to all intents and purposes whatsoever, unless such contract, agreement or token shall set forth and designate in writing such shares, stock or interest by the respective numbers by which the same are distinguished." It has been said that a coach-and-four can be driven through any Act or Ordinance. One such coach-and-four is being driven through the Keswick Ordinance by our brokers incorporating in a forward share contract a stamped statement that the numbers have not been inserted by mutual request. Such share transactions are legal where there is mutual agreement for the omission of the numbers. What is urgently required is an amendment to the Keswick Ordinance making it imperative for every forward

CORRESPONDENCE.

[To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph"]

EUROPEAN FOOD PROBLEM.

Sir,—On the 17th, March, 1919, Reuters Agency, amongst other items of news, published the following:—
"Washington March, 7th.—The United States has warned Italy that unless the latter ends the delays being caused to the transmission of supplies to the newly established Jugo-Slav and Czechoslovak States, steps will be taken to cut off the supply of American foodstuffs to Italy."

I am now authorised by my Government to contradict the false news disseminated by Reuters, which, of course, could not have been believed by those who know the Italian character. We have the custom of being generous to a fallen foe. Since the Armistice we have been feeding Austria, and during the war we treated the Austrian prisoners so kindly that they erected in one of their camps a rough monument to Dante, as a simple token of their sincere gratitude. If further proof were required, it is sufficient to point out the fact that while the greater part of Europe is a seething cauldron of unrest Austria, up to the present, has been in a state of relative calm, thanks to the intelligent and humanitarian assistance of neighbouring Italy. I have the honour to be, etc.

Z. VOLPICELLI.

Consul General for Italy, Canton, 29th March, 1919.

ALIEN PARTNERSHIP CASE.

JUDGMENT DELIVERED TO-DAY.

His Lordship, Sir William Rees Davies, K.C., Chief Justice, delivered judgment this morning, for defendant, with costs in the case in which John Owen Hughes, the liquidator of the trade and personal affairs of A. W. A. Becker, a partner in the firm of Sunder, Weiler and Company, and Harry Wicking and Company sued Chiu Wah, to recover damages amounting to \$65,000 under a compradore agreement made between an enemy firm and their compradore, and the defendant, who guaranteed the compradore agreement.

The claim was in respect of (1) goods delivered to Chinese dealers and not paid for, (2) goods for which delivery had not been taken and which had been resold.

After delivering a lengthy judgment, His Lordship concluded by saying:—"In my opinion the action must fail on two material grounds (a) the dissolution of the partnership by operation of law which is independent of the question of licence, (b) the variation of the contracts which discharged the surety. It becomes therefore unnecessary for me to deal further with the other issues raised in argument."

are transaction to contain the number, mutual consent to the contrary.

Leeman's Act, which is in force in England and Shanghai, is confined to dealings in shares of joint-stock banking companies, and makes forward transactions in them null and void. The Keswick Ordinance makes similar contracts null and void, but not limiting them to joint-stock banking shares but shares in any joint-stock company. The King's Regulation, made under the China Order-in-Council, goes further for it makes such transactions illegal. The question at issue in the case under review was whether the Minister had power to make this particular Regulation. The Shanghai Judge has held that the Minister has no such power. If that decision holds good, there is now no ban on forward dealings in unnumbered shares in Shanghai, excepting, we presume, where there is no intention of shares passing, in which event the transaction would be in the nature of a sheer gamble and would thus be a breach of the British Gaming Act. But the main point, so far as Hongkong is concerned, is that the Shanghai judgment does not effect the local situation at all.

My chagrin at seeing the compositor mutilating my copy last week by changing Hongkong Wharves into Hongkong Docks and vice versa was so profound as Mark Twain's when he read his own obituary notice.

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Fine cotton Pyjamas with Fast color Stripes \$3.25 suit.

Best quality Crepe with Fast color Stripes \$3.75 suit.

Best quality Crepe Plain white \$3.75 suit.

Fine muslin with Fast color Stripe \$5.50 to \$6.50 suit.

White Silk & Pongee \$8.50 suit.

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H. K. S. B. R. G. A. MEN.

LUNCHEON AT MR.
ARCULLI'S HOUSE.

A spirit of conviviality yesterday pervaded 16, Kennedy Road where 450 returned war heroes, British and Indian officers, N. C. O.'s and men of the H. K. S. B. R. G. A. and Mountain Battery were invited by Mr. A. F. Arculli, the leader of the local Mohomedan community, to partake of lunch. The place was elaborately decorated and the lawn was specially set out for the purpose. The clerk of the weather was not in a good mood and the rain entirely upset the original plan. Lunch was, therefore, served in several improvised dining rooms and the men were loud in praise of the hospitality of the host. The arrangements were in charge of Mr. Arculli and Mr. Sirdar Khan, and amongst those who present were noticed Captain Skilton (Officer Commanding the H.K.S.B. Mountain Battery), Lieut. Tyler, Wilcox, Reynolds, Perroth, Helpen, Subadar Iman Din Khan, Subadar Mehdi Shah, Dr. Manla Baksh, Jemadar Noor Mohamed, Messrs. Nowshirwala, Abdul Rahim, Yusuf Hassan, H.M.H. Nemazee and others.

After the repast Mr. Arculli the chairman said: Captain Skilton, British Officers and N. C. O.'s of the H. K. S. B. R. G. A. My friends, in their goodness of heart, which I am afraid is misplaced confidence, have made me spokesman. It is with diffidence that I rise to perform this duty. You have shown the world that you are the worthy successors of those gallant men who fought and conquered under great leaders like Marlborough and Wellington. In fact, your achievement is equal in comparison to that of those men. Your country is proud of you and the peace loving world is grateful to you. You, Subadar Iman Din, Musulman officers, N.C.O.'s and men, we thank you and those others who have fought in the various battlefields not only for upholding the reputation of Indian fighters but also for proving that when and justly treated, they will always be found loyal and faithful. It requires a great poet to sing praise adequate to your achievements—everyone is a Rastoum and Isfandayr in one. To us Musulmen, it is the more gratifying that your sense of Nemak Halal has enabled you to withstand all sorts of bogus religious propaganda. If I may strike a personal note, your doings appeal to me more than those of any other unit of the Indian Army, because I have known your battalion in my childhood when its members were called Gun Lascars. These men were recruited from the Central Provinces and Bombay and Madras Presidencies. Though they were not as fine looking a body of men as you they did well in the first and second wars with China. When I was eighteen in 1875, I first had business dealings with them, and it was about then that the time-expired men were replaced by Panjabis and Sikhs. In 1890 the C.O. Cap. Hawkins, invited me to start a regimental bazaar in Macgregor Barracks and it I mistake not, it was about this period that the name of Gun Lascars was taken away and that of H.K.R.A. substituted. At the end of 1891, they were increased to four companies and later a company was

raised for duty in Singapore, followed by another M. unit. They then became known as the H. K. S. B. R. G. A.

I have an idea that your Subadar Major, who is now absent, and Subadar Mehdi Shah, were amongst those fresh arrivals in 1891. Subadar Iman Din came with his company under the command of Capt. Skilton from Singa-

apore to relieve the company being transferred from here. During the Boxer trouble two companies of your battalion proceeded north and rendered service in the relief of Peking.

My excuse for having gone somewhat into ancient history is because of my close association with your unit. The brave are always generous so I hope you will pardon any shortcomings on my part.

With these words, I beg again to tend, on behalf of my associates and myself, our grateful thanks not only for what you have done for the King Emperor and the Empire, but also for doing us the honour of accepting our invitation. (Applause.)

Before I conclude I would like to say that a more spacious place would have been better adapted for a function of this character than my humble abode. My friends, however, after due consideration, suggested that I should lead my house for the occasion, and that is why you are here to-day. I need hardly say that I am more than glad you have come.

Capt. Skilton responded in a fitting manner. He said that it was an honour to them to attend such a function which he would never forget and on behalf of the British officers he thanked the chairman for according them such a welcome. He eulogised the good work done by the Indian officers and men and it was a pleasure for him to command them. As they were serving the Fatherland at the front he was sure the Indian Community here were doing their bit for the Empire. The Indians were men of good temperament and could be easily governed.

Subadar Iman Din Khan answered for his comrades, expressing thanks to the chairman for extending the invitation to them. Mr. Sirdar Khan said: Captain Skilton, Officers and N.C.O.'s and men of the H. K. S. B. R. G. A. and Mountain Battery. We have to thank you for accepting our invitation and wish to state that the reason we have asked your kind presence is to enable us to celebrate your victorious return from the battlefields, to acknowledge the mighty efforts made and the highly important services rendered by you from the beginning of the war up to the end; to rejoice together with you over the fact that once more we Indians have proved our invariable loyalty, love and devotion to our King, Emperor and country. You were in the vast sandy deserts of the battlefields and we were in the safe but busy life in the city. This appreciation is the proof of the great efforts being made at the time when the world was passing through unparalleled horrors when the abhorred German War Lord was indulging in his lust for blood at the expense of the peace-loving members of the human race. That same influence beguiled Turkey into alliance and thought that the Musulman world in general would join Turkey. We have done our share towards convincing our arrogant enemies, the defiler of civilization, that we Musulmen have no love for the stirring up of trouble but believe

and strive for peace and good will on earth and it will be a very long time before Germany can forget the stand the Britishers have taken up with our Allies, France, America, Italy, etc. Gentlemen we thank you for honouring us with your presence.

SMALL COIN SHORTAGE IN RANGOON.

Rangoon, February 24.—Evidence of inconvenience caused by shortage of small currency is reported from various parts of the Burma Province. The Rangoon trans refuse to accept rupee notes when tendered and passengers have been turned off the train for insisting on change. Traders are charging five or ten per cent. for changing notes and in addition to the lack of rupee pieces four and eight annas pieces are also not available in sufficient quantity to meet the demand. The cultivators complain of the loss thus caused.

IF SLEEP DOES NOT REFRESH YOU.

People who are tired out, who arise in the morning feeling that sleep has not refreshed them, are in a state of nervous exhaustion that borders on the condition that doctors call neurasthenia. The causes are varied. Continuous work, mental or physical, without proper attention to diet and exercise also worry over the struggle for success, are the most common causes. Excesses of almost any kind may produce it. Sometimes diseases like influenza will cause neurasthenia. So also will a severe shock, intense anxiety or grief.

The symptoms are over-sensitiveness, irritability, a disposition to worry over trifles, headache, possibly nausea.

The treatment in cases like this is one of nutrition of the nerve cells requiring a nonalcoholic tonic. As the nerves get their nourishment from the blood the treatment must be directed toward building up the blood. Dr. Williams' pink pills act directly on the blood and, with proper regulation of the diet, have proved of the greatest benefit in many cases of neurasthenia. A tendency to anaemia or bloodlessness, shown by most neurasthenic patients, is also corrected by these tonic pills.

Two useful books, "Diseases of the Nervous System" and "What to Eat and How to Eat," will be sent free by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 96 Szechuen Road, Shanghai if you mention this paper. Dr. Williams' pink pills are sold by all chemists, or can be obtained at \$1.50 per bottle, six for \$8, post free from the above address.

FURS & CARPETS.

Save your FURS & CARPETS by storing them in our COLD STORES for the SUMMER MONTHS.

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After using "LAZARITE" we guarantee that your glasses will not "steam" when at TENNIS, GOLFING, HUNTING, or DRINKING and EATING anything HOT.

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SYNOPSIS

of

British Gazettes Nos. 511 to 515.

Showing To-night at

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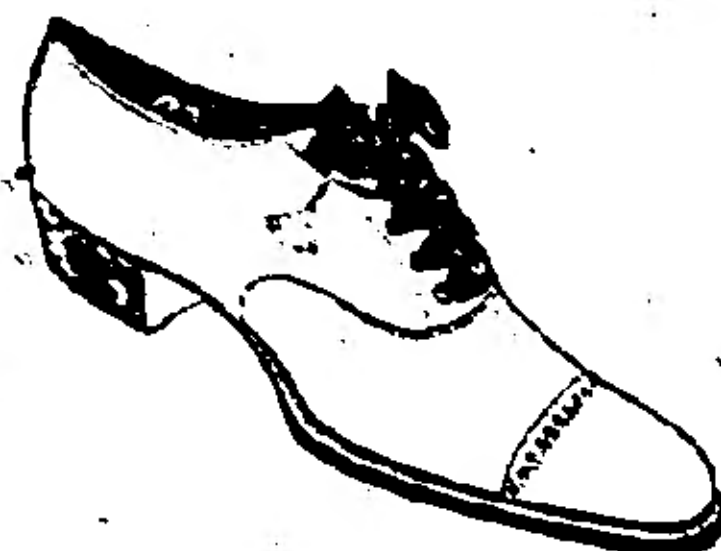
Buckingham Palace: Sandhurst Cadets receive the King's Banner. Scenes at the LORD MAYOR'S show. "THE LAST CHARGE"—a genuine picture taken on the last day of hostilities. Scenes in and from an Airship: Bird's eye view of London including St. Paul's. "WORLD WAR OVER: How London celebrated the great day of Victory. The King and Queen give thanks at St. Paul's. Victory Pageant at Basingstoke. Edinburgh: Their Majesties visit "Auld Reekie." Canada: Lord Roberts in 1908. "but the War will finally be won by the genius of a French general named Ferdinand Foch, Professor in the Military School in Paris." London: Our democratic King and Queen with the Silver Badgesmen in Hyde Park. The Victory Ball in aid of the National Fund for Nurses. HARWICH: SURRENDER OF U BOATS. SCAPA FLOW: The Triumph of the British Navy—GERMANY SURRENDERS HER FLEET TO BEATTY. H.M.S. QUEEN ELIZABETH: Admiral Sir David Beatty's signal to the German fleet—"The German flag is to be hauled down at sunset and will not be hoisted again without permission." GOD SAVE OUR KING AND QUEEN.

Note.—This is a very fine picture and should be seen by every Briton in the Colony; but bear in mind that there is no fake about the British Gazette and do not expect too much.

NOTICES.

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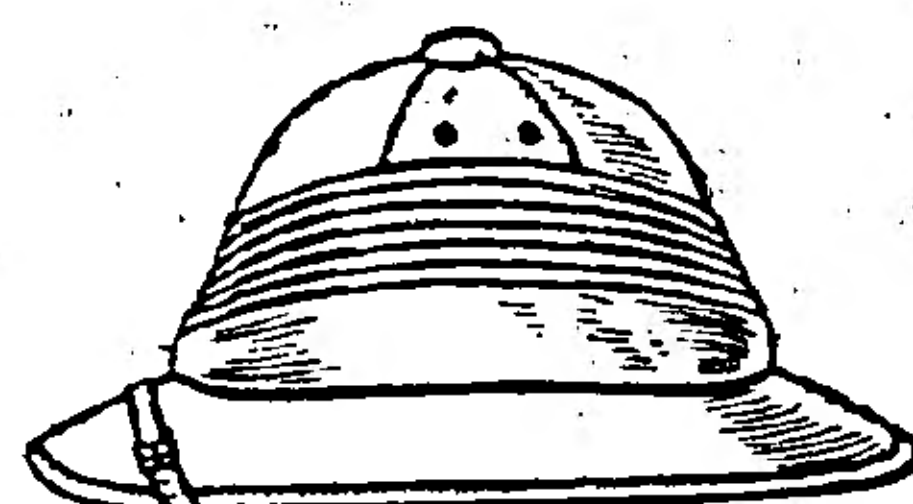
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LONDON—Monthly direct service via Singapore and Port Said.
"ALPS MARU" Wednesday 2nd April.

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MARSEILLES—Monthly direct service via Singapore & Port Said.
BUENOS AIRES, RIO DE JANEIRO, SANTOS, MAURITIUS, DURBAN AND CAPE TOWN VIA SINGAPORE.
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"LUZON MARU" 5th April.

VICTORIA, VANCOUVER & TACOMA VIA MANILA, KEP. LU'G, SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, M. JI, KOBE, YOKKAICHI & YOKOHAMA.
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"ARABIA MARU" Thursday, 10th April.

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"TAIOU MARU" Friday, 11th April.

KEELUNG, TAKAO VIA SWATOW & AMOY—These steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class saloon passengers and will arrive at and depart from the S'oon Yip wharf, near the Harbour Office.

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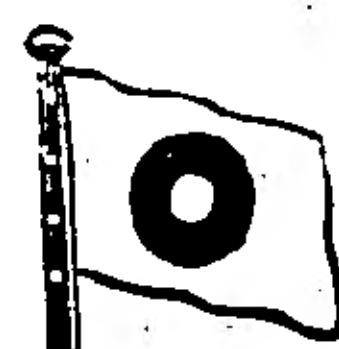
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will be despatched as above on or about 3rd April 1919.

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STEAMERS, LTD.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From SAN FRANCISCO,
YOKOHAMA, & KOBE.

THE Steamship

"ALVARADO,"

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of cargo by her are hereby informed that all goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 1st April 1919, at 5 P.M. noon will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas, on 1st April 1919, at 10 a.m. Claims against the steamer must be presented within 30 days of arrival otherwise they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.
Agents.

Hongkong, 25th March, 1919.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From UNITED KINGDOM
COLOMBO, & STRAITS.

THE Motorship

"GLENLYE"

having arrived from above ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 31st March 1919, at 5 P.M. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas, 31st March 1919, at 10 A.M. Claims against the steamer must be presented in within 30 days of arrival otherwise they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

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Hongkong, 24th March, 1919.

CONSIGNEES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From CALCUTTA, PENANG
and SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"KWAI SANG,"

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of cargo by her are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves, delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 31st inst., 1919, at NOON will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined. Claims against the steamer must be presented within 10 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.
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Hongkong, 24th March, 1919.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE DOLLAR STEAMSHIP
LINE.

THE Steamship

"BESSIE DOLLAR"

having arrived from Vancouver B. C., via ports, on March 26th, 1919, consignees are hereby notified that their cargo is being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra-hazardous godowns of the Holt's Wharf and stored at consignee's risk.

All broken, chafed and damaged cargo is to be left in the godown, until Tuesday April 1st, when they will be examined by Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke, at 10 a.m. Tuesday April 1st, 1919.

Claims will not be admitted unless examined by our Surveyors, Messrs Carmichael & Clarke, prior to the above date.

All claims must be presented within a month of the steamer's arrival here, after which they will not be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the goods have left the godowns.

All goods remaining after April 1st, will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.

Consignees are requested to send in their bills of lading for counter-signature.

THE HOBERT DOLLAR COY.

Agents.
Hongkong, 29th March, 1919.

NOTICES.

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No. 1 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 2 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 3 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 4 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 5 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 6 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 7 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 8 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 9 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 10 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 11 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
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No. 13 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 14 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
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No. 25 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 26 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 27 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 28 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 29 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 30 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 31 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 32 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 33 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 34 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
No. 35 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE
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No. 100 Dock, Kowloon	100'	12'	10'	GRANITE

HEAD
OFFICE: KOWLOON.
Telephone No. K. 55.

Please address enquiries to the Chief Manager.

R. M. DYER, B.Sc. M.I.N.A., Kowloon Dock, Hongkong.

WHY WASTE?

DO YOUR SHOPPING AT

SINCERE'S

AND GET

"GOOD VALUE FOR YOUR MONEY."

UNCLAIMED TELEGRAMS.

Eastern Extension Australasia
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List of Unclaimed Telegrams
lying in the E. E. Telegraph
Office at Hongkong.

Gabitt, from Kuala Lumpur.
Harrop, Hongkong Club, from
Shanghai.

Katsusha, from Hanoi.
Levaillant, Astor Hotel, from
Saigon.

HONGKONG'S HOUSING QUESTION.

(Continued from page 1.)

tool of circumstance—often artificial circumstance. It is the profiteers who are inexorable. And the profiteers must be put under restraint. A plain, unvarnished thief, whether of hand bags or bank-notes, is sent to gaol. The profiteer is allowed to wax fat and wealthy. That must be changed. And it is going to be changed, if one reads the signs of the times aright. The vast social upheaval now stirring the world is going to be all for the benefit of the bottom-dog.

THE STRAITS METHOD.

To return to rent-control, this is no new idea. It has already been tried in the Straits with eminent success. Any landlord of a house which, at a date named in the Ordinance, was let at \$60 per month or less, who wishes to increase the rent, must make application to the Board constituted under the Ordinance, called the Rent Assessment Board, for permission to make such increase. More often than not, the application is refused, though moderate increases are sometimes allowed where very good reason is shown and it must not be assumed that all landlords are rogues; they are not. Application is also necessary for permission to evict a tenant, and is never successful unless it is shown that the tenant will not pay his rent, or is in some way really an objectionable tenant unworthy of consideration.

In fixing rents or deciding upon applications for increases, the Board are guided mainly by the Municipal assessment figure, which of course is the correct basis upon which to work, as it is a figure arrived at by an expert, and consequently likely to be fair. It has needed the great war and a housing crisis to provide the extraordinary spectacle of property owners rejoicing in high assessment!

THE \$60 LIMIT ABSURD.

The Straits Ordinance, and the experience of it (there have been complications), should be studied and followed roughly to meet the very similar circumstances in Hongkong, but its one crass and inexplicable blunder should not be copied. That is obvious—the limiting of the application of the Ordinance to houses rented, at the material date, at \$60 and under. The gods must have wept at that illogical piece of nonsense. Justice was established within the limits prescribed, whilst profiteering in respect of houses rented higher than \$60 became more rampant than ever. Nearly all Europeans and all the better-class Eurasians were left exposed to wicked imposition. The alien invaders do not rush for the slums. They want the good houses—and they have got and are getting them.

And that brings one to an all-important aspect of rent control. If the landlord is deprived of auction-bidding for his houses, he will, at the fixed rents, almost without exception prefer to retain his existing tenants—mostly British subjects. (In any case, he will be unable to evict them at will.) He only takes the other people now because of their money—not because he likes them. Thus with rent control, the monied alien invader would be compelled to do what he ought to do if he is so very keen on coming to this Colony to make more money. He would have to buy land in the open market, and build houses for himself. And that would be an excellent thing for the Colony and its trade generally, without carrying distressing and even ruinous consequences for British subjects.

Really, can it be seriously said that this is not a very simple and very practicable proposal? The second portion of this article will appear to-morrow. The fourth and last article of this series, specially written for the Hongkong Telegraph, entitled "Some Conclusions," will appear later.

KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB.

THE ANNUAL DINNER.

The annual dinner of the members of the Kowloon Cricket Club was held at the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday evening last, and was attended by a number of the members and their guests. Mr. R. E. Lindsell presided and amongst the guests were the Rev. A. T. W. Dowling, M. A., Captain Murray, Lieut. E. Exenden, M. C., and Lieut. Mann.

At the conclusion of the dinner, the Chairman gave the toast "The King" which was enthusiastically responded to.

The next toast, "The Kowloon Cricket Club" was proposed by the Rev. Dowling who said he understood that it was the duty of a visitor to propose the health of the Club. He was under the impression he was a member up to about a week ago, when he received a letter enclosing a cheque for \$40 from the Secretary and was told to sling his hook. To get their minds at rest he would tell them that he was off on Wednesday. He supposed that was the reason he had been asked to give the toast, because having been both in and out of the Club he was a member expected to have inside information. He was not going to say anything as to how the Club played cricket or grew looks, but thing of all was the spirit of comradeship. It was something for a son to get out of a rather stuffy atmosphere and get to a place where he could talk amongst men. Another thing, and he was sure he spoke for all present enjoying the hospitality of the members, they were all very glad to be asked there. It was a wonderful club. A new chaplain was coming to Kowloon and he asked them to give him half a chance. They had treated him (the speaker) very well and he asked them to give the next man a sporting chance. They knew what he meant. He asked them to drink to the health and prosperity of the Kowloon Cricket Club.

In responding, Mr. R. E. Lindsell said as vice-president of the Club he supposed he must say a few words. He was glad that Mr. Dowling had emphasised the point of the good fellowship of the Club. They were primarily the members of a cricket club or sports club, with the finest recreation ground in the Colony, but they were also members of a social club where they met as personal friends and he thought the point referred to by Mr. Dowling was one of the Club's greatest assets. In taking the chair he thought he was a very inefficient substitute and he very much regretted that Dr. Forsyth was not present. Dr. Forsyth had done more for the Club for many years to make it what it was in the direction of good fellowship. He asked them to drink to Dr. Forsyth's health and a speedy recovery and return to Hongkong.

The toast of the Army and Navy was proposed by Mr. E. J. Edwards, who said they met that year under far happier circumstances than during the last four years. The greatest war in history had ended, as they were all confident it would end, in an overwhelming victory for them and their Allies.

In concluding he would like to refer to the part taken in the war by members of the Club. The last report showed that 53 members were serving with the forces (applause) and their sea-going members and naval and military members showed a considerable number—well over 40. He trusted that the Committee in charge of the roll of honour would soon have sufficient data to enable them to set up a fitting memorial

THIEVES IN MOSQUE.

The Indian Mosque at the Whitfield Barracks at Kowloon, despite its sacredness, is not immune from thieves. A number got into the Temple enclosure and stole three brass taps, two of which were subsequently recovered.

One would-be thief scrambled over the temple wall on Saturday morning and unsuspiciously dropped into a trap prepared for him by a Sepoy who had been detailed to guard the Mosque from the depredations of these wicked unbelievers. The thief made a desperate resistance. He scrambled back over the wall and dropped on his head on the other side. Considering the great height of the wall, which is five feet, he must have a very thick skull to survive the fall and to appear before Mr. G. N. Orme this morning with nothing more serious than a bandaged head. So as to melt the Magistrate's heart, the thief recounted the hammering he alleged he received at the hands of the Sepoys, who were enraged at finding the sacredness of their Mosque outraged by the intrusion of this heathen.

Captain Campbell of the 74th Punjabis said the bandaged head resulted more from the fall than the hammering.

The Magistrate fined the prisoner \$30, with an alternative of six weeks' imprisonment.

TRANS-ATLANTIC FLYING.

The U. S. aerial seaplanes are being prepared for trans-Atlantic flight by the Navy Department. But no decision has been reached as to the number of machines to participate or the date on which they are to start for the flight.

to the memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice in the cause of the Empire. He asked them to drink to the Army and Navy coupled with the name of Lt. Exenden.

Lt. Exenden in replying gave an interesting sketch of the work of the Battery of the H.K.S.B. R.T.A., and gave a list of the decorations gained. He paid a tribute to the men of the battery saying that whatever honours the European officers gained were due to them.

The toast of the "K. C. C. Golf Section" was next proposed by Mr. L. J. Blackburn who said that during the last few years the Golf Section had been the mainstay of the Club. The Golf Section had lost through many of the members going away on active service. He would like to couple with the toast those members who were doing their bit at the front.

Mr. Hyde briefly replied and referred to the satisfactory year the Section had had. He asked the higher handicapped members to take part in the competitions as this would increase the interest in them.

In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," Lt. A. O. Brown made a lengthy speech which was interspersed with brilliant flashes of wit, and an amusing account of his experiences at a recent cricket match. Lieut. Mann replied in a few well chosen words, referring to the good work done in the pulpit of St. Andrew's by the Rev. Mr. Dowling.

Mr. J. H. Mead fittingly undertook the duty of proposing the toast of the Chairman.

During the evening an enjoyable programme of music was gone through and also the following prizes were distributed by the Chairman:

Captain's Cup.—J. Hyde; runner up, A. Morrison.
Electric Cup.—J. Jack; runner up, D. J. Mackenzie.
Bogey Cup.—A. Morrison; runner up, J. Hyde.
Paga Cup.—J. Hyde; runner up, H. Overy.
Oswald Cup.—H. Overy; runner up, D. J. Mackenzie.
Morrison Cup.—J. Jack; runner up, D. G. Nicoll.

DAY BY DAY.

Mr. F. A. Nixon, successor to Mr. C. H. Shields as Postal Commissioner in Canton, will assume office on April 1, when Mr. Shields starts his leave of absence.

The Police Reserve are holding a dance on Saturday. Only a limited number of invitations will be issued. Attention is drawn to an advertisement on the subject elsewhere in this issue.

We learn that seven Portuguese gentleman resident in the Colony have received from the Portuguese Government the Knighthood of the Order of Christ. Further details will be announced later.

It is proposed to build a new bund at Canton in continuation of the West Bund. The width of the proposed bund will be 100 feet and buildings on that bund will be allowed to have verandahs 20 feet wide.

A Chinese broke into a shop at No. 9 Lyndhurst Terrace, and stole three rolls of summer cloth valued at \$60. He was arrested by a detective at Cochrane Street and this morning sentenced to three months' hard labour at the Magistracy.

Among the passengers that left the Colony on Saturday on the Empress of Asia were Mrs. Garibaldi and her brother, Mr. A. C. Galluzzi. Mrs. Garibaldi will join her husband who has been appointed Representative for Italy on the Technical Administration Board of Control of the Siberian Railways in Vladivostok. Mr. Galluzzi goes to Japan on a holiday.

A Chinese woman was arrested at the Kowloon Railway Station as she was about to entrain for Sheklung and was charged before Mr. G. N. Orme with attempting to export 9 tals of Government opium without a permit. The prosecuting Police Officer, Inspector Gordon, said the drug was found on the woman. Two tals was the quantity usually allowed, and in this case, the woman had seven tals in excess, fine of \$900, or, in default, three months' hard labour, was inflicted by the Magistrate.

Two Chinese who were arrested at No. 436, Shanghai Street, Yau-mat, were this morning charged before Mr. G. N. Orme with being in unlawful possession of four fully-loaded revolvers and 118 rounds of ammunition, some of which were Winchester rifle cartridges cut down and converted into revolver bullets. Mr. T. H. King, who appeared to prosecute requested a short remand as the Police are making inquiries to ascertain the prisoners' connection with recent arms cases. A remand was ordered, the prisoners being detained in Police custody.

The Blue Funnel boat Peleus this morning brought into port thirteen Chinese stowaways who sneaked on board at Liverpool, Singapore and other ports. Inspector Gordon told the Magistrate that the ship's officers received information and when the ship left Singapore, there was a round-up of the stowaways, who were unearthed from every possible hiding place. There was also an influx of stowaways from Swatow and they were a perfect nuisance. The Magistrate imposed a fine of \$25, or, in default, one month's hard labour, on each of the stowaways.

FACTORY LEGISLATION.

MR. BOWLEY'S PROPOSALS.

At to-morrow's Sanitary Board meeting, Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, pursuant to notice, will move:—
That the following additional By-law be made under Sub-section 13 of Section 16 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903:

Overcrowding of Premises.
i. A factory or a workshop shall be deemed to be so overcrowded as to be dangerous or injurious to the health of the persons employed therein if the number of cubic feet of space in the factory or workshop, or in any room or sub-division of the factory or workshop, bears to the number of persons employed at one time in such factory or workshop or in such room or sub-division respectively a proportion less than 350 cubic feet, or during any period of overtime, 400 cubic feet of space to every person.

ii. The Board shall cause to be affixed in every factory and workshop a notice in English and Chinese specifying the number of persons who may be employed in each room or sub-division of the factory or workshop by virtue of the preceding by-law.

Mr. Bowley will also move:

i. That in the interests of the public health of the Colony the Government be requested to introduce the provisions of the employment of Children Act, 1903, prohibiting the employment of children under the age of 14 to lift, carry or move anything so heavy as to be likely to cause injury to the child, or in any occupation likely to be injurious to his life, limb or health, regard being had to his physical condition.

ii. That in the interests of the public health of the Colony the Government be requested to amend Section 16 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance so as to empower the Sanitary Board to make by-laws (subject to the approval of the Legislative Council) prohibiting the employment of children and young persons under the age of 18 in any factory or workshop for more than 10 hours (excluding meal times) in any one day, except with the special permission of the Board.

THE PEACE CELEBRATIONS.

At the time of the Coronation, the various local firms situated in the same block of buildings adopted a uniform policy in regard to the scheme of decoration and illumination. For this purpose, a contractor was engaged, and was paid by the firms interested in proportion to the amount of labour and space involved in the scheme.

It is proposed, in connection with the Peace Celebrations, to adopt a similar method, and the Street Decorations and Illumination Sub-Committee hope that the heads of firms will act on this plan so as secure uniformity of treatment of the various buildings.

Our football reports are unavoidably crowded out. They will appear to-morrow.

There has been a record run out, the Victoria Theatre ever since Friday when "Shoulder Arms" was screened by the management. Every night the house has been packed. The picture is an instantaneous laughter-producer and shows Charlie Chaplin at his best. It rocks you to laughter from the very moment he comes on the scene right through to the end. Seats have been heavily booked for all the nights on which the film is to be shown.

Maison Lily

Just received an assortment

New French Hats

Linen, Paper, Ribbon

and Flowered Ties

Shanghai Buildings

Shanghai

THE HONGKONG SCHOOL OF MOTORING.

APPLICATIONS FROM STUDENTS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED.

The SCHOOL has accommodation for 200 PUPILS, the syllabus including courses for MECHANICS and DRIVING.

SPECIAL FACILITIES are offered to persons desirous of becoming CHAUFFEURS and not at the moment having means at their disposal for their course.

Works and school-Shaukiwan Office-4 Queen's Road Central

LIBERTY MALT BEVERAGE.

VICENTE ATTENZA.

18 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

Tel. K155.

WE SELL EVERYTHING IN THE MUSIC LINE.

JAMES LAU & CO.

TEL. NO. 2916.

26 WYNDHAM STREET.

KOWLOON DOCK RIFLE CLUB.

THE ANNUAL SHOOT.

The annual shoot of the Kowloon Dock Rifle Club was held yesterday at Stoncutter. Mr. R. M. Dyer was in charge and amongst the visitors were His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G., the Hon. Mr. D. Landale, the Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell, Mr. Justice Melbourne, Dr. Forsyth, Captain Russell, Lieut. Blason, F.C. Pall and Murray, Mr. A. O. Lang and many others.

The shooting started at about 10 a.m. and after the 200 and 500 yards had been shot off the party adjourned for tiffin, after which speeches were made by Mr. Dyer and replied to by His Excellency. The shooting then continued and at the conclusion, after tea had been served, the prizes were handed to the winners by Mr. Dyer.

Major MacDonald was then presented with a handsome silver cup. In handing the cup to Major MacDonald, Mr. Dyer referred to the recipient's long connection with the Dock Company and said they wanted him to have something to take away with him as a memento. Although the cup was a large one, it represented no more than the degree of esteem in which he was held by the staff.

Major MacDonald suitably replied, saying that he would hand the cup to his sailor boys, with strict instructions to take care of it, as being presented to their father as a member of the Dock Company.

After further speeches had been made by His Excellency and Major Morgan, the proceedings terminated.

The prize winners were:—I. D. Gow; 2. G. Duncan; highest aggregate prize, D. Keith; visitors prize, Lieut. Hall.

OVERLAND DRAGON MOTOR CAR CO. HUDSON

A NEW SHIPMENT OF CHANDLER, ELGIN & OVERLAND CARS

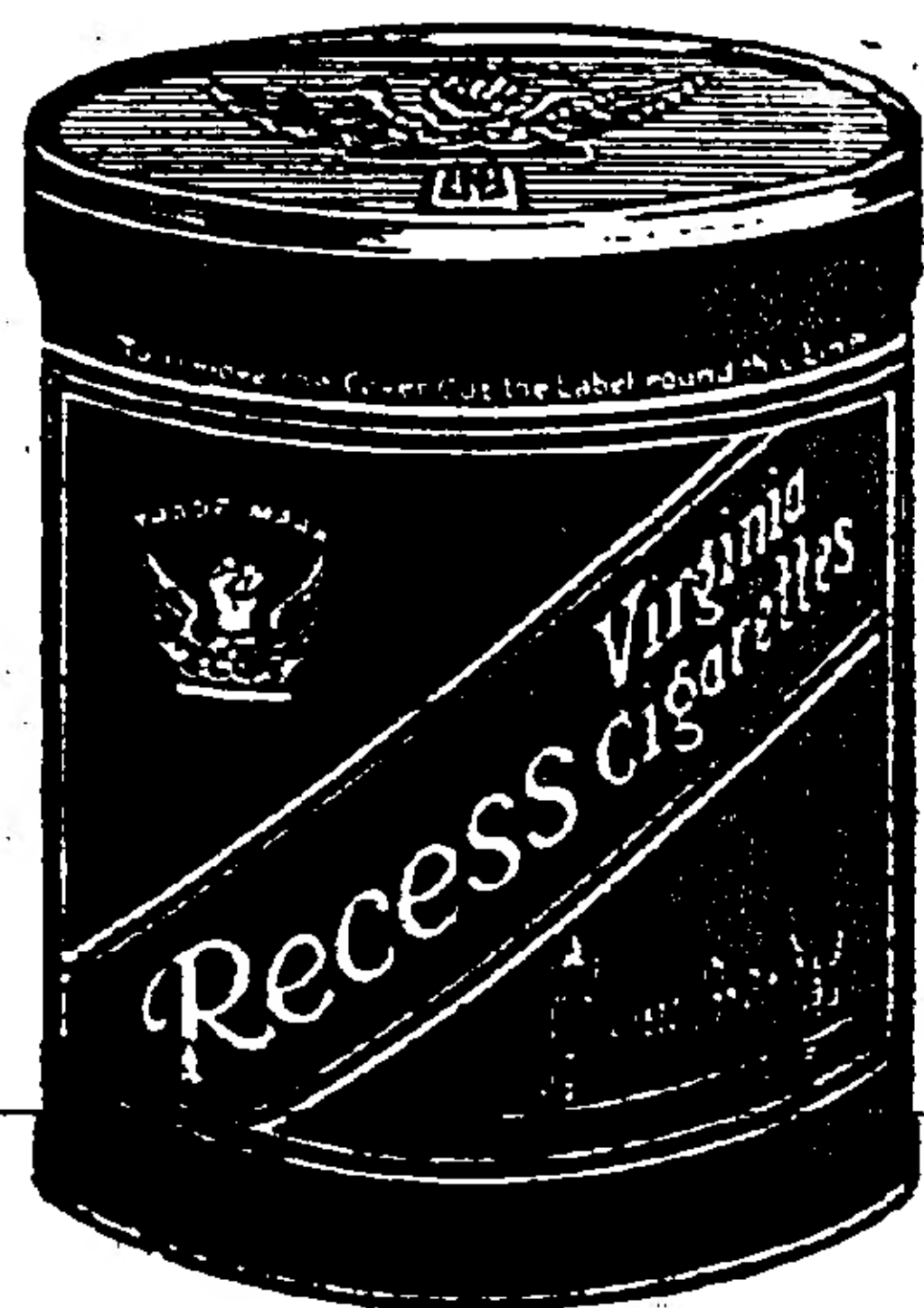
IS TO HAND.

PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS CORDIALLY INVITED TO INSPECT.

NEW STOCKS OF STERLING TYRES HAVE ARRIVED CARS FOR HIRE

RECESS NO. 44.

VIRGINIAN CIGARETTES.



Large Size

Cigarette.

Packed in

Air-Tight

Tin of 50

Cigarettes.

Manufactured

by



COMPANY MEETING.

(Continued from Page 8.)

very considerable sum has been written off for depreciation. This includes the book value of all the old buildings I have mentioned, which may shortly have to be replaced by others of a more modern design; the money that has been spent on piling and re-inforcing our western yard to enable us to build vessels of 3,000 tons there; 20% off other additions made throughout the year; 20% off floating plant, and 10% of the remaining buildings and plant. I would mention that during the war it has been practically impossible to obtain machinery of any description; consequently we have this year to face the expenditure of a considerable sum in this connection. The programme I have outlined may perhaps strike you as somewhat large, but I can assure you we do not by any means contemplate extravagance in any department we do, however, intend to keep pace with the time, and in the circumstances I am confident you will consider it a sound policy to write off liberally wherever we think it necessary. We propose further to place to reserve \$600,000, which will then bring our reserve fund up to \$1,500,000, which can be used for development or for any other purpose your Directors think fit. The sum of \$30,000 bonus to staff appearing in the accounts represents 20% of their annual salaries, and on their behalf, your Directors further propose to initiate a Provident Fund on similar lines to those already adopted by many other local and Eastern companies, in which the European staff can participate, and so create a fund to provide for the old age and retirement of those employees who have served us well and faithfully. It is to the energy and loyal services of our European staff that the good results we are able to put before you are very largely due, and I am sure, therefore, that the bonus and the Provident Fund scheme will have your hearty support. I do not think there is any other point I need mention, but when the report and accounts have been seconded, I shall be pleased to answer to the best of

my ability any questions that shareholders may desire to ask. I now formally beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts as circulated.

Mr. A. O. Lang said:—Gentlemen,—In rising to second the adoption of the report and accounts, I desire, in the first place, to congratulate the Directors and Management on the very excellent result of the year's working. As we have just heard, the dominant note in the Chairman's speech is one of progress and development and while other concerns may be doubtful about the future and hesitate to lay out capital, I am sure we are all pleased that such is not the case as far as the Dock Company is concerned. Proceeding on ordinary lines, the possibility of repair work must necessarily be problematic but the possibilities of construction work are practically unlimited and it is gratifying to know that with the completion of the extensions now in hand the Company will be in a position to undertake shipbuilding in all its branches on a much higher scale than has hitherto been the case. Gentlemen, the Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock Company is not only an asset of the shareholders, it is an asset of Hong Kong and the Far East, and in wishing the Directors, and Chief Manager any success in their progressive enterprise I feel I am but voicing public sentiment. The conservative policy of paying for these developments, so far as is possible, will doubtless meet with approval and thoroughly commend itself to prudent shareholders. No one, I feel sure, will grudge the bonus to staff, as the vast amount of work accomplished during the year under review must have necessitated a great deal of overtime, and the additional duties have, I understand, been diligently and cheerfully performed. It is very satisfactory to learn of the inauguration of a Provident Fund, and so far from finding fault, I think the general consensus of opinion is that this is a step in the right direction. In a concern like the Dock Company, where so many Europeans are employed, such a fund is especially necessary and in the case of old employees, I trust it may

SHIPPING.

VESSELS ARRIVED.

March 31.
Hainan, 1847, Br. Capt. Stewart, Swallow.
W. Sun, 2518, Br. Capt. Schumacher, K. C. Wap, Wang Hing-Mooring—Wharf.
Shansi, 1223, Fr. Capt. McCulloch, Wahu, B. & S.—Mooring—B 11.
Taiwan, 1443, Br. Capt. Perkins, Canton, B. & S.—Mooring—C 44.
Kwangso, 1231, Br. Capt. McDonald, Canton, B. & S.—Mooring—C 12.
Chengin, 1721, Br. Capt. Tucke, Singapore, F. & O.—Mooring—Wharf.
Teluk, 2101, Fr. Capt. Mansfield, Singapore, B. & S.—Mooring—B 5.
Taiwan, 977, Br. Capt. Pickrell, Hainan, J. M.
Sunning, 1254, Fr. Capt. Benson, Shanghai, P. & S.—Mooring—B 10.
Namwan, 240, Fr. Capt. Castro, Hainan, Tai Fung.—Mooring—C 42.
Hainan, 2170, Amer. Capt. Lester, Singapore, Union Star.—Mooring—B 12.
Bliss, Maru No. 5, 212, Jap. Capt. Nakamura, Kobe, Y. Trading.—Mooring—C 32.
Bansu Maru No. 5, 1711, Jap. Capt. Banerji, Wuhu, Kihara.—Mooring—C 42.

VESSELS DEPARTED.

Wingapore for Canton
Sunning for Canton
V. S. S. for San Francisco
Koro Maru for Kaitung
Shan Shing for K. C. Wap
Nam Wan for Hainan
Hainan for Singapore
Alcorne for Paitoi
Kwangso for Shanghai
Chik'i for Wuhu
Canton for Canton
Fuzhou for Shanghai
Kyda Maru for Bangkok

be found possible to make the scheme retrospective to some extent. With these few remarks I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts as presented. The motion, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously. Mr. T. E. Perce proposed, and Mr. J. W. Graham seconded, the re-election of the Board of Directors of the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, G. M. G., and Mr. A. S. Sorenson, and the motion was carried.

Major Macdonald proposed, and Mr. J. W. Graham seconded, the re-election of Mr. H. Percy Smith, F. C. A., and Mr. A. R. Lowe, F. C. A., as auditors for the ensuing year, at a remuneration of \$1,000 each, and the motion was carried. The Chairman then announced that dividend warrants would be ready to-morrow, and could be had on application; and the meeting terminated.

WEATHER REPORT.

Max 31d 11h 11m—No return from Japan and Vladivostok. The sky, clear, a cool breeze to move sea ward, and pressure has decreased slightly to moderate at all reporting stations.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.71 inch. Total since January 1st 3.37 inches against an average of 6.10 inches.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS ENDING AT NOON ON-MORROW.

Direction	Forecast
1. Hongkong to Jap. Sea	N.E. winds, fresh; cloudy, occasional rain.
2. From the Ocean	The same as No. 1.
3. South coast of China to H.K. and Lamoo	The same as No. 1.
4. South coast of China to H.K. and Hainan	The same as No. 1.

C. W. JEFFRIES—Chief Assistant.
Hongkong Observatory, Mar. 31, 1919.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Previous	Day	On date	On date
Barometer	30.09	31.06	30.01
Temperature	55	54	51
Humidity	83	95	66
Wind Direction	N.E.	N.	E.
Force	2	1	4
Weather	od	cl	o
Sea	0.11	0.00	0.54
Height from sea level	1.13	1.13	1.13

H.K. Observatory, Mar. 31, 1919.
T. F. CLAXTON, Director.

CONSIGNEES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO. LTD.
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are hereby notified that the Cargo will be discharged into Holt's Wharf, Kowloon, where it will lie at Consignee's risk. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Godown on and after 31st March.

Optional cargo will be landed, unless notice has been given prior to steamer's arrival. All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on any Tuesdays and Fridays between the hours of 10.45 a.m. and noon within the free storage period.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the steamer's Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 7th April, will be subject to rent. All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 21st April, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.
Hongkong, 21th March, 1919.

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